

COVENTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year
ending December 31st, 1925.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report of Inspections and other work appertaining to my office of Sanitary Inspector, for the year ending December 31st, 1925, and in doing so, I am pleased to again note the satisfactory state of affairs as regards Sanitary matters in the whole of the District.

The postponed Sections of the Milk and Dairies Act, 1922, came into force on September 1st last, and I am pleased to record that the whole of the Dairies, Milk Shops, and Cow Sheds under my jurisdiction are in a very satisfactory state indeed.

Much work has been carried out in Holy Trinity Without in connection with the Drainage and other Sanitary matters, and although not yet perfect, great improvements have been effected in these and other items of sanitation.

Factories and Workshops visited have all been found satisfactory in respect of Sanitary matters, and the general provision of Destructor has done away with the nuisance of Rubbish accumulation.

The following is a list of Inspections made during the year:-

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Informal notice</u>	<u>Nuisance abated</u>
Allotments	6	Satisfactory	
Ash Pits and Privies	15	4	4
Cow Sheds	25	Satisfactory	
Dairies and Milk Shops	24	Satisfactory	
House Drainage	60	Satisfactory	
Lavatories and W.C's.	30	Satisfactory	
Structural Defects	6	6	6
Bungalows and Caravans	36	Satisfactory	
Pigstyes	34	Satisfactory	
Deposits of Rubbish	4	4	4
Fowl and Pigeon Pens	40	Satisfactory	
Factories and Workshops	12	Satisfactory	

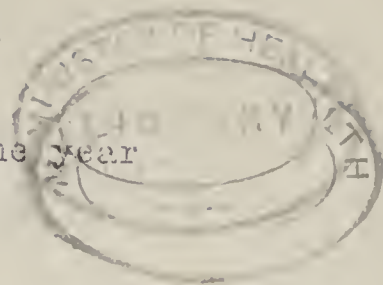
None of the above call for special comment, all complaints of defects being promptly remedied and put in satisfactory order.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) C. G. Parrott,
Sanitary Inspector.

COVENTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report of Medical Officer of Health for the year
ended 31st December, 1925.



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Rural District of Coventry for the year ended 31st December, 1925.

Population, etc.

The area of the combined parishes of St. Michael's Without and Holy Trinity Without is 1839 acres, and the Registrar General's estimate of the population for 1925 is 6459, being an increase of 278 over the figures for last year, and an increase of 1323 as compared with the census figures for 1921.

The general characteristics of the District are Urban rather than Rural, being intimately associated with the City of Coventry, and practically all the working population find employment in the factories of Coventry and District.

The total number of inhabited houses is 1248, and the number of families or separate occupiers 1266.

The Rateable Value of the whole District is £35,461. 10. 0, and the sum of £132. 12. 4 represents a Penny Rate.

Approximately 3931 persons reside in the parish of Holy Trinity Without and 2528 in the parish of St. Michael Without.

Births.

(Birth Rate: 25.7 per 1000 Population.)

The total number of Births registered in the area during 1925 was 166, - Males 91. Females 75.
This is a decrease of 26 as compared with 1924.

Only two illegitimate births were registered, these occurring in Holy Trinity Without.

The average Birth Rate per 1000 Population for England and Wales is 18.3, so that the Coventry Rural District figure of 25.7 is still well above the average.

138 Births were notified to me by Midwives and others, besides 1 Still-Birth. There are 24 Midwives practising in the District.

Deaths.

(Death Rate: 10.06 per 1000 Population.)

The total number of Deaths registered in the area was 65:-

<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
39.	26.

3 more than the year 1924.

This is 2.14 per 1000 population less than the average for England and Wales, which is 12.2.

The following is a summary of the causes of Death:-

	<u>Disease Etc.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
(1)	Influenza ...	1	1	2
(2)	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ...	3	7	10
	(This is 5 more deaths than recorded during 1924.)			
(3)	Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	2	2	4
(4)	Cancer etc. ...	2	1	3
	(This is 5 females less than recorded during 1924.)			
(5)	Heart Disease ...	3	1	4
(6)	Bronchitis ...	2	2	4
(7)	Pneumonia. (All forms)	8	2	10
(8)	Other Respiratory Diseases	1	-	1
(9)	Ulcer of Stomach of Duodenum ...	1	-	1
(10)	Appendicitis ...	2	-	2
(11)	Congenital debility and Premature Birth ...	5	2	7
(12)	Suicide ...	-	1	1
(13)	Other Deaths from Violence	1	-	1
(14)	Other Diseases ...	8	7	15
	No deaths from Puerperal Septis are recorded.			

The Death Rate for 1924 was 10.03 per 1000 Population, and 8.45 for 1923.

Infant Mortality.

(Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Births is 102.4)

During 1925, 17 Infants under 1 year died in the District - one being illegitimate. This is a reduction of 2 on 1924.

Infectious Diseases.

There were 151 notifications of Infectious Disease received during the year 1925 - 21 more than 1924. In 1923 the number was 65, and in 1922 31.

The conditions notified were as follows:-

(1)	Tuberculosis.	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	
	(a) <u>Pulmonary.</u>	13	6	(Excluding re-notifications).
	(b) Other Varieties.	3	1	(Excluding re-notifications).

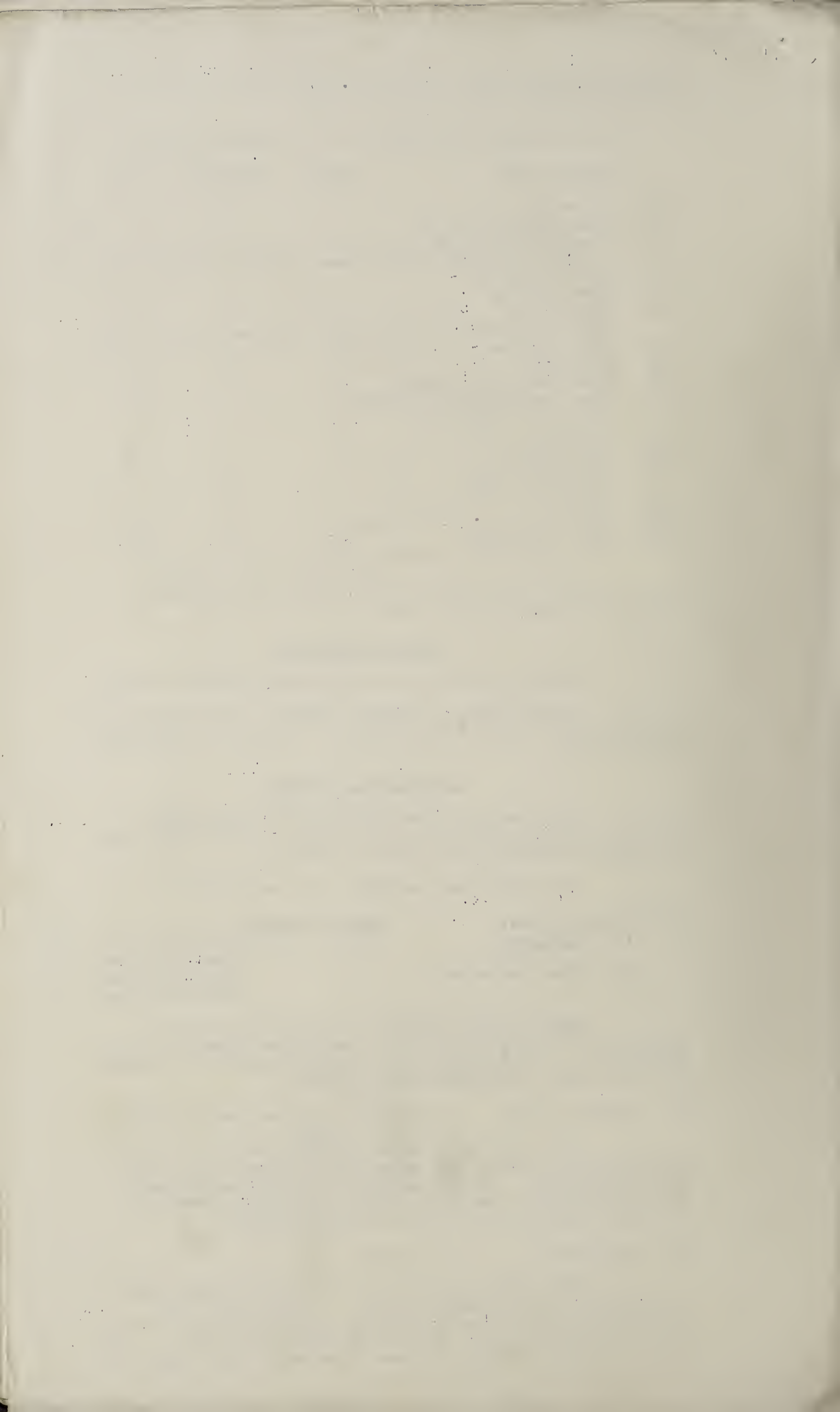
Many of these cases have received treatment either at the King Edward VII. Sanatorium, Warwick, or at Bramcote. Disinfectants have been supplied as required and the houses and bedding disinfected.

(2) Scarlet Fever. - 36 cases (3 less than in 1924). (30).

The majority of cases occurred in the Parish of Holy Trinity Without, and were, for the most part, of a mild character. In all cases the bedding and houses were disinfected, and most of the cases were removed to the City Hospital for Isolation and Treatment.

(3) Small-Pox. - 2 Cases.

Both cases occurred at the Whitley Boys' Home towards the end of January 1925. These cases were immediately removed to the Pinley Small-Pox Hospital and all the known contacts vaccinated within 48 hours. No further cases of Small-Pox have occurred in the District.




- (4) Ophthalmia Neonatorum. - 2 cases.
One case treated at the Infirmary, London Road, Coventry, the other by a private Medical Practitioner.
- (5) Pneumonia. - 1 case (Influenzal).
- (6) Erysipelas. - 2 cases.
- (7) Diphtheria. - 8 cases.
7 of these cases occurred in Holy Trinity Without. Each case visited personally and arrangement made for isolation and disinfection. 1 case was removed to Hospital.
- (8) Encephalitis Lethargica. - 1 case in St. Michael Without.
- (9) Chicken-Pox. - 55 cases.
This disease is still notifiable within the District. During the previous year there were 42 Cases reported.
- (10) Puerperal Sepsis. No cases reported during 1925.

The large increase in the number of notifications of Infectious Disease is principally due to Chicken-Pox being notifiable. When one deducts 55 notifications of Chicken-Pox and 36 of Scarlet Fever, the percentage of other diseases is by no means high.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

- (1) Tuberculosis.
There is no Hospital or Sanatorium in the District, but patients attend the Tuberculosis Dispensary in the City of Coventry, and may be treated at either the King Edward VII Sanatorium, near Warwick, or at the Bramcote Sanatorium.
- (2) Maternity.
Patients can make arrangements with the authorities of the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital or the Gulson Road Hospital, Coventry, where beds are available.
- (3) Children.
Infant Welfare Centre at Holbrook Lane on Tuesday afternoons. This centre is thoroughly appreciated by the residents of Holy Trinity Without.
- (4) Fever.
No Hospital in District, but agreement with County Borough of Coventry, whereby cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria are treated. The cases are removed by the ambulance of the City Hospital. By the courtesy of Dr. Snell, Medical Officer of Health for the City of Coventry, supplies of anti-diphtheric serum may be obtained from this Hospital. Arrangements have also been made with Dr. Wright, Pathologist at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital for the examination of swabs.
- (5) Small-Pox.
No Isolation Hospital in the District, but an agreement with the City of Coventry to the effect that cases may be dealt with at their Hospital at Pinley.



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(6) Hospital Accommodation.

There are 250 beds at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital, which are available for the residents of Coventry and District, and about 350 beds at the Gulsan Road Hospital (Poor Law). The accommodation in both these institutions is taxed to the uttermost, although the congestion at the latter has been somewhat relieved by the opening of a special block of 100 beds for Sick Children.

Ambulance facilities are provided by City of Coventry.

Housing.

The general housing conditions in the District are inadequate for the Population, and in many instances more than one family occupy a 3-roomed dwelling. Many have erected temporary bungalows on the Aldermoor Estate, in the Parish of St. Michael Without, but the water supply on this estate is limited and not recommended for drinking purposes.

I am given to understand that extensive building schemes are being undertaken by the Council of the City of Coventry, in the hope of relieving the dearth of houses in the locality, but it will be some time before conditions are ameliorated.

COVENTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Housing Conditions.

Year ended 31st December, 1925.

General Statistics.

Area ... 1839 Acres.

Population ... 6459.

Number of inhabited houses ... 1248.

Number of families or separate occupiers 1266.

Rateable Value ... £35,451. 10. 0

Sum represented by Penny Rate £132. 12. 4

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

- (a) Total .. 18
- (b) As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme .. none
- (c) Hostels converted into dwelling houses .. none

1. Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Inspection - (1) Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. 60

(2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 .. 56

(3) Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. None



(4) Number of Dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .. None.

2. Remedy of Defects without Formal Notice.

Number of defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit for habitation, in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .. 5

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

(a) Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act, 1919 .. None

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .. 5

(2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were rendered fit -
(a) By owners .. 5
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .. None

(3) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close .. None

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.
.. 4

(2) Number of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied:-

(a) By owners .. 4
(b) By Local Authority, in default of owners .. None

C. Proceedings under Section 17 and 18 of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders .. None.

(2) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made None

(3) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwellings having been rendered fit None

(4) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. None

(5) Number of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.. None



MILK SUPPLY.

Arrangements for the supply and distribution of Milk in the District are most excellent; and the quality is of a very high standard.

No cause has arisen for taking action, either in regard to Tuberculous Milk or Tuberculous Cattle.

No licences have been granted for the sale of Milk under special designations.

No refusal or revocation of licences has taken place during the year, and nothing has occurred to make necessary the Bacteriological Examination of any of the Milk retailed in the District.

MEAT.

The inspection of the Meat Shops has always shewn the Meat exposed for sale to be of first rate quality, the premises kept clean and well conducted, thus giving no cause for action to be taken in respect of any of these

There are no Public Slaughter Houses in the District.

BAKING.

The Public Bakeries are quite up-to-date in their equipment and sanitary arrangements, and call for no special comments; also

No unsound or unwholesome food has come under our notice.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No complaints in regard to this matter.

REGULATIONS AND OCCUPATIONS UNDER CONTROL.

No offensive Trades in the District, and
No Registered Lodging Houses.

OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS.

Nothing special under this heading.

SCHOOLS.

No Public Schools under the jurisdiction of the Council.

REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

This is done principally by contract with the Coventry Urban Authority, except in some of the remote parts of the Area; i.e., among the Bungalows, etc., where arrangements have been made with the Local Carters to perform the Service.

WATER SUPPLY.

This is now largely supplied by the Coventry Corporation, as far as their mains extend, but beyond these the supply for the farms and cottages on the Aldermoor Estate at Pinley, is still derived from wells, which yield an adequate supply of water.

The inhabitants of the Stoke Aldermoor Estate have sunk a well, but the supply is not very satisfactory.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Rivers and Streams flowing through the District, are, generally speaking, free from pollution.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

A large part of the area in both St. Michael Without and Holy Trinity Without, is now dealt with by the City of Coventry Authorities.

In the Rural Area, where the Urban System does not touch, the Sewerage is still dealt with on the old principle of Privy and Closet, most of the latter being on the bucket and dry earth plan. Some of the Privies have already been converted to the dry earth system, and others are in contemplation, so that in course of time the Ash Pits and Privies will be entirely done away with.

As regards House Drainage, this is chiefly dealt with by outfall into a bank or sunphole, these being cleaned out at intervals and the sludge buried in the Gardens attached to the Cottages (providing the Gardens are not taken away from the houses), this system, although far from perfection, is fairly successful from a Sanitary point of view.

Total Number of Ash Pits .. 16
Total Number of Closets
of all Types 90 (approx.)

These are constantly being added to by the erection of new Houses, Bungalows, etc.

The general health of the Area has been quite satisfactory, and the houses are for the most part clean and well kept. Conditions at Colony and Corporation and Whitmore Park Cottages are by no means ideal, but the landlords (the Coventry City Council) are doing all in their power to improve the Estate, although they are hampered by the financial restrictions attached to an assisted Housing Scheme.

All Factories and Workshops within the Area have been visited and inspected, and have been found to be well ventilated and provided with adequate sanitation.

Health Visitors and Midwives have carried out their duties most zealously.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) W. P. Elford.

